

**REMARKS**

**Status of the Application**

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 11, 12, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (US Publication 2003/0034323). Claims 2, 4-10, and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Applicants hereby amend claims 1, 9 and 10, cancel claim 2 and add new claims 16-19.

**Preliminary Matters**

Applicants thank the Examiner for accepting the drawings filed on February 12, 2009.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

*Claims 2, 4-10, and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.*

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2, 4-10 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, in the interest of compact prosecution, Applicants hereby incorporate claim 2 into claim 1 and write claims 9 and 10 in independent form. Applicants submit that claims 1, 9 and 10 are thus immediately allowable. Claims 3-8 and 11-15 are immediately allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from allowable claim 1.

**Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102**

*Claims 1, 3, 11, 12, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (US Publication 2003/0034323).*

As noted above, without conceding to the merits of the Examiner's rejection, and in the interest of compact prosecution, Applicants hereby amend claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2. Thus, Applicants submit that amended independent claim 1 is allowable over Smith. Claims 3, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from allowable independent claim 1. Withdrawal of the instant rejection is hereby respectfully requested.

**New Claims**

Applicants hereby add new claims 16-19.

Claims 16 and 17 contain subject matter corresponding to original claims 2 and 10, respectively, and are dependent from allowable independent claim 9. Thus, new claims 16 and 17 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from allowable independent claim 9.

Claims 18 and 19 contain subject matter corresponding to original claims 2 and 9, respectively, and are dependent from allowable independent claim 10. Thus, new claims 18 and 19 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from allowable independent claim 10.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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